Warwick SU for Returning Tuition Fees from Strike Days

This Union Notes:

1. Currently, Warwick University does not expect to refund students over time lost to strike action.\(^1\)

2. Nationally, over 70,000 students have signed petitions calling for compensation for time lost to strike action.\(^2\)

3. That currently Warwick Students’ Union has made the following statement “…we eagerly await an announcement from the University as to how they will be using any forfeited staff wages – we strongly advocate that this money should be invested into supporting students, for example through the hardship fund.\(^3\)

4. Education Secretary, Damian Hinds has announced that students can demand compensation from their university if their lectures are affected by the strikes.\(^4\)

5. Universities minister, Sam Gyimah has said ‘students should not lose a day of the education they are paying for and I expect young people to get compensation for the lost study time, as some universities like Kings College London have already started looking into.’\(^5\)

6. King’s College London is “…setting up a fund to compensate students whose classes and lectures are being cancelled because of the UCU strike”.\(^6\)

7. According to the ‘Memorandum and Articles of Association of Warwick Students’ Union’, the Warwick Student Union’s objectives include; ‘Promoting the interests and welfare of students at the University of Warwick during their course of study and representing, supporting and advising students; being the recognised representative channel between Students and the University of Warwick…’.\(^7\)

8. General secretary of the UCU, Sally Hunt, supports the idea of students placing pressure on their universities to return their tuition fees.\(^8\)

---

\(^1\) https://theboar.org/2018/02/warwick-university-refund-students-strikes/
\(^2\) https://www.theguardian.com/education/2018/feb/20/70000-students-call-for-compensation-over-ucu-lecturer-strike
\(^3\) https://theboar.org/2018/03/warwick-students-think-ucu-strike/
\(^4\) https://theboar.org/2018/02/education-secretary-confirms-that-students-can-demand-compensation-if-university-strikes-proceed/
\(^5\) http://mancunion.com/2018/03/05/pay-back-students-says-universities-minister/
\(^6\) https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/kings-college-london-students-offered-refund-over-lecturers-strike-bmf0cze6
\(^7\) http://democracy-files.warwicksu.com/council/By-laws/Memorandum%20&%20Articles%20of%20Association%202012.pdf
\(^8\) https://theboar.org/2018/02/warwick-university-refund-students-strikes/
This Union Believes:

1. It is overwhelming in Students’ interests for the return of tuition fees if they have lost their education time to strike days.
2. For Warwick University Students, excluding holiday weeks and reading weeks, they could lose 12% of their entire University year to strike action.
3. That without change, the Warwick Student Union policy on refunds will not be in favour of direct compensation for directly affected students from strikes.
4. According to the Articles of Association, the objectives of the Warwick Student Union includes ‘Promoting the interests and welfare of students at the University of Warwick…’. Which logically, would make fighting for the return of Tuition Fees from strike days a quintessential example of where the Student Union should intervene if their return is in the Students’ interests.
5. The Government has confirmed our right as students to demand our tuition fees back if we are not receiving what we paid for.

This Union Resolves:

1. To mandate the Sabbatical Officers and Student Union to campaign and lobby for direct compensation from the University of Warwick for students directly affected by the UCU strike (Directly affected students meaning students who have missed out on lectures, seminars, marking etc as a result of the UCU strikes).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

9 http://democracy-files.warwicksu.com/council/By-laws/Memorandum%20&%20Articles%20of%20Association%202012.pdf